

member of the Friends of the Monterey Park Library.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring an outstanding woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Gloria Guerrero. The entire community joins me in thanking Gloria for her success and continued efforts toward making the 29th Congressional District a more enjoyable place in which to live and work.

COMMENDING MIKE EAVES FOR HIS WORK AND DEDICATION TO AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE 8TH DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA

**HON. ROBIN HAYES**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. HAYES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate and praise an individual who has dedicated himself to improving North Carolina. Mike Eaves is a remarkable person in many ways, and I want to acknowledge him for his accomplishments and efforts towards promoting agriculture and rural development.

Mike grew up in Epsom, North Carolina located in Vance County. He is a proud graduate of both Louisburg College and Appalachian State University.

Mike began his work in government when he accepted a job with the Farmers Home Administration. Mike soon moved on to the Farm Service Agency in 1984 where he served as Executive Director of the Richmond County Farm Service Agency. In 2002, due to his strong knowledge of the farm programs and the people, he became the District Director, overseeing 13 county offices as well as being a liaison between the State Office and the County Office. Most recently, Mike has been selected to be the Administrative Officer of North Carolina State FSA Office, effective April 3rd, 2005.

Anyone knows that long-term success depends on future leadership. It will not surprise you to know that Mike has a strong record of leadership and achievements. He has received the Distinguished Service Award for Community Service from the North Carolina Association of County Office Employees. Mike has also received the Distinguished Service Award for Community Service for the Southeast Area and the National Distinguished Service Award for Community Service from the National Association of County Office Employees. Mike's determination to help build and create a better community and a better North Carolina is inspiring.

I am very happy for Mike and his new position in the State Office, but I will tell you that Richmond County and the 8th District of North Carolina will miss his leadership. Although I know you will be watching over us from Raleigh and keeping a close eye on Richmond County, I can't tell you how much I have appreciated your steadfast dedication towards promoting and advancing agriculture and rural communities in North Carolina. Personally, I can't thank you enough for your friendship and the kindness you have shown me since I have been in office. Your assistance has been invaluable to me and my staff.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot tell you how much I appreciate Mike Eaves' tireless dedication and

his desire to increase the quality of life for Richmond County, the 8th District, and North Carolina as a whole. He has gone above and beyond the call of duty to help create and sustain a strong agriculture community, and as a citizen of North Carolina, I join many in sincerely thanking him.

I would also like to acknowledge Mike's family that has been there backing him in his efforts and successes. Mike has a very loving family. Mike's wife, Susan, makes a mean lemon meringue pie. I am sure she is as proud as I am of his many accomplishments and his dedication to his profession.

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN STUBBS

**HON. MARION BERRY**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 17, 2005*

Mr. BERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today on behalf of Congress to commend Captain Jon Stubbs of Searcy, AR, commanding officer of Charlie Company of the 39th Infantry Brigade's 3rd Battalion for his leadership in Iraq over the past year.

Managing a delicate balance between ambassador and soldier, Captain Stubbs has served his nation by bringing hope to a country encompassed by war. He led his company with the strength necessary to win the trust of those in his command and with the compassion needed to bring aid to the Iraqis he bravely protected.

From Searcy and Little Rock, Arkansas to Camp Taji and Adhamiyah, Iraq; amidst machine gun fire, roadside bombs, rocket propelled grenades, the loss of fellow soldiers and friends, Captain Stubbs served as a faultless example of what it means to be a soldier, a leader and an American.

Focused under pressure and diplomatic with the Iraqi people and the media, we could ask for no better ambassador in these most trying times than Jon Stubbs. His efforts led the 39th to reconstruct Iraqi schools, hospitals, irrigation and sewage systems, and new recreational projects for children; none of this would have been possible without Captain Stubbs' leadership.

As Jon Stubbs' wife Jane and daughter Susannah welcome him back, his community has also regained a strong leader. The son of a Methodist preacher, Jon Stubbs epitomizes his faith through his involvement in church youth programs, Sunday school and his continued participation in the education of his daughter and her fellow students. While the men and women in his company willingly follow him into battle, his community can look to him again as a friendly and optimistic voice in their lives.

On behalf of the Congress, I thank Captain Stubbs, Charlie Company and the entire 39th Infantry Brigade for their bravery, diplomacy and strength on behalf of the Iraqi people. The courage demonstrated by Charlie Company reflects considerably on their commanding officer; America's debt to Captain Stubbs' is immeasurable and will never be fully repaid.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND TSUNAMI RELIEF, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. TAMMY BALDWIN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 16, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1268) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Chairman, yesterday I voted against passage of H.R. 1268, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Iraq and Afghanistan and Tsunami Assistance bill.

In March 2003, before the war began, I wrote to the President with 22 of our colleagues to ask him to specifically define our objectives and to provide an exit strategy. We asked the President a number of questions including: "Under what circumstances will our military occupation of (and financial commitment to) Iraq end? And how will we know when these circumstances are present." We and the American people never received an answer to these crucial questions. Even today, the Administration is unwilling or unable to answer. This is simply unacceptable.

Time and again, the President has requested money to fund the war in Iraq while refusing to answer our questions about this war and provide a comprehensive strategy for bringing our troops home. In our democracy, the Congress controls the purse strings. Before allocating additional funds, we must insist that the administration articulate the conditions necessary to bring our troops home, and push them to do that as soon as possible. The administration's refusal to address that is quite astounding to me and should be of great concern to all Americans who believe in principles of accountability and checks and balances.

In addition to my concerns about a lack of overall strategy and benchmarks for success in Iraq, I am very disappointed with the administration's handling of Iraq spending, in both process and substance. Emergency supplemental spending should be reserved for true emergencies, those instances in which the need for expenditures is unforeseen or unforeseeable. The vast majority of funds in this supplemental fail to meet that criterion. Both last year and this year, the Administration excluded Iraq costs from their budget requests, although most of the costs could be estimated. Shortfalls or additional needs then could have been funded through a supplemental. That is the proper way to manage taxpayer funds.

I want to make it clear that I believe that our men and women in the armed forces serving in Iraq are doing their jobs with great honor. They have my unequivocal support and respect. My vote against this spending bill should not be characterized as a rejection of them or the resources they need to carry out their duties. If this bill had been defeated yesterday, funds would have continued to flow to Iraq tomorrow and over the next few months. Voting down this bill would have allowed ample time for the President to respond to our concerns and resubmit his funding request.